

Third leaves from twenty to thirty-five pairs, placed nearly opposite, lowest pair largest, diminishing upwards till they are lost in the termination of the second leaves.

Lobes ten or twelve pairs, opposite, a few of the first pairs divided down to the nerve, confluent at the point, where they are lost in the blunt crenated termination of the third leaf; they are of an oblong figure, blunt at the extremity, where they are deeply crenated with three or four dents.

The number of these lobes, on a large and well-grown leaf, I have found to exceed five and thirty thousand; the whole of a fine green; the substance light, tender and very delicate, and in point of beauty and elegance much superior to any other of the British ferns.

Seed vessels in round dots, one on each lobe near the division at its base, at first white, afterwards green, and at last brown.

My figure is reduced by a scale of twenty-four supposed inches, on six inches of the standard foot. The branch, with seed vessels, is taken from a small, or middle-sized specimen, and, drawn of its natural bigness.

Female Fern grows in the moist part of rocky woods, and about brooks and rivulets in the West-riding of Yorkshire. In rocky moist places beside Lee Beck near Halifax plentifully.

POLIPODIUM

